

Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee

Summary Minutes

January 29, 2004

Meeting Time 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Meeting Location:

**Metering Building, Second Floor Conference Room
SPU Operations Control Center
2700 Airport Way South
Seattle, WA**

Members and Alternates Present: Bruce Bachen (SPU), Frank Urabeck (Trout Unlimited), Sam Wright (WA Trout), Steve Foley (WDFW), Hans Berge (KC), Tim Romanski (USFWS) Bill McKay, Chuck Wischman (PSA), Phyllis Meyers (NMFS), Michael Kern (LLK), and Bill Robinson

Other Participants: Chuck Johnson, Brodie Antipa, Joan Thomas, Dave Seiler, Anne Marshall (WDFW), Peter Kiffney (NOAA), Linda DeBoldt and Paul Faulds (SPU)

I) Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 AM.

II) Approval of agenda

Members unanimously approved the agenda.

III) Meeting minutes review and approval from December 18, 2003

The AFC unanimously approved the meeting minutes from December 18, 2003 following minor changes requested by Dave Seiler, Michael Kern, and Bill Robinson.

IV) Interim mitigation program for chinook, coho, and steelhead

Review proposals for projects in 2004

Bruce provided members and guests with an overview of the interim program for chinook, coho, and steelhead. He explained the deadline for recommending proposals for funding to the LMA Parties was March 1st and any undesignated 2004 funds that were not set aside for approved proposals would be transferred to the Cedar River Downstream Habitat Program. He suggested at this meeting the AFC focus on reviewing the proposals and asking questions of the principal investigators rather than concentrating on funding decisions. Members received a handout that listed the proposals for their review and Bruce suggested members use the handout to as a tool to help rank proposals for the February meeting.

V) Fish Passage at Landsburg

The agenda was adjusted so Linda DeBoldt (SPU) could address members on developing a process or approach to evaluating the issue of passage of marked chinook above Landsburg. Linda explained that Washington Trout sent a letter to SPU expressing their

concerns about passing marked chinook above Landsburg and had requested further discussion on this issue in 2004.

VI) Sockeye monitoring and research

Review planned and potential monitoring activities for 2004 to establish priorities

Bruce briefed members on the current projects under Sockeye Monitoring and Research. Members were provided a handout that listed the projects and their costs.

Bruce asked if the AFC needs to make any adjustments to the monitoring program.

Dave suggested changing the hatchery release strategy to eliminate mid-river fry releases in 2004 and release these fry in the lower river below the fry trap. He said having fry released above the fry trap creates extra work associated with the collection and archiving of fry for otolith analysis.

Sam motioned the AFC adopt the new release strategy proposed by WDFW for 2004. Frank seconded. Five members voted for the new strategy and one opposed. Phyllis abstained. The motion carried.

VII) New Sockeye hatchery design

Design question concerning otolith marking

Bruce updated members on the 60% design review and value engineering proposal. One element that is under consideration is using a boiler instead of a chiller for marking fry. The committee had no objection to this change in design that will result in significantly reduced construction and operational costs.

VIII) Public comment

There were not public comments.

IX) Information and discussion Items

Status report on Cedar River Hatchery – Brodie Antipa

Brodie reported the hatchery released the first take at Landsburg and ponded the first fed group Monday. The staff are anticipating releasing about 10 million fry.

Cedar River fish counts – Steve Foley

The sockeye escapement for the Lake Washington Basin in 2003 was currently estimated at 125,000 – 130,000.

X) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM